

Agricultural Marketing Service  
Office of the Deputy Administrator  
Fruit and Vegetable Division  
Fresh Products Branch  
Agricultural Marketing Specialist (General)  
GS-1146-5

SJ FV39

## I. INTRODUCTION

This position is located in a Field Office of the Fruit and Vegetable Division, Fresh Products Branch, Agricultural Marketing Service. The incumbent serves as an Agricultural Marketing Specialist trainee and as such performs duties designed to provide familiarity with grading and inspection concepts, methods, and practices as well as to acquaint the employee with the organizational procedures of the Division. The training process includes both formal instruction and on-the-job training. Assignments are performed at various terminal market sites, such as warehouses, packing plants, and similar facilities and may involve details and/or reassignment to a different geographical area as determined by management.

## II. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

As a trainee, the incumbent receives instruction and training and work assignments from the supervisor or other specialists, to become familiar with the programs and functions of the Branch with particular emphasis on fresh fruit and vegetable inspection activities which will provide experience in grading, compliance, and certification techniques and in the application of official standards.

Studies instructional material, the official standards and related regulations which govern the grading, inspection, and certification of products.

Receives instructions at the work-site on determining general product quality, on recognizing specific product defects and diseases, and on the practical application of the standards and regulations in general.

Assists higher grade specialists by performing portions of the work under their guidance. Such tasks include selecting representative product samples, and preparing worksheets and summary reports of grading and inspection.

As the trainee's familiarity with products and technical proficiency with procedures increase, the trainee may make quality determinations on a few designated products under close guidance and review by the Officer-in-Charge or designee.

### III. JOB CONTROLS

A. Responsibility for the Work of Others: None

B. Supervision and Guidance Received:

The supervisor or senior employee provides the assignments. Detailed and specific instructions on the methods to be used in performing each phase of the work are provided on new assignments. The incumbent works in strict adherence to the instructions. Assistance is readily available as needed, and the employee consults with the supervisor or senior employee to clarify the original instructions, product conditions, or circumstances which are new or unusual to the employee.

Work is reviewed and checked to an extent sufficient to keep the supervisor aware that instructions and methods are being understood and followed.